

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE SICK

Trudy Eastwood, Caroline Williams, Christine Rogers, Craig Millward, David Noble, Patrick Hullinson, Barbara Murphy, Florence Ward, Peggy Sugrue, Dale Broom, Jackie Berry, Bernard Holt, Patricia Greene, Bernadette Greene, Brenda Neiles, Eileen Butt, Johnny Falloon, Carol Doherty.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE DEAD

Recently Deceased: Alfonso Hervas, Fr. Ray Matus, Chris Burke, Mike Davidson, Annie Kay.

Anniversaries: Gwen Wade, Anthony Walsh, Anna Hughes, Bill O’Leary, John and Clarice Towey, Mary Davitt.

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS

“In times of aridity arouse your spirit very gently, by acts of love; then rest in the will of God—so a soul’s fidelity is shown.”

St Paul of the Cross


“I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things.”

St Teresa of Avila



The Month of the Holy Rosary

The Rosary is the best therapy for those who are worried, distraught, unhappy or fearful. This is precisely because it involves the simultaneous use of three powers—which when occupied together free us—the physical movement of the beads, the vocal recitation of the words, the spiritual lifting of our minds and hearts to the mysteries of the life of Jesus. Praying in this way we can become lost to the world and in the company of Mary leave everything to God.

 Last Week’s collection was: £1253.99 Thank you

£££

The monthly figure for Standing Orders: £1373.00



This week, the Sacred Heart Lamp burns for a Special Intention.



This week, Our Lady’s Lamp burns for someone recovering from an operation.

OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH, PRESTWICH

PARISH PRIEST Fr. PHILIP CALDWELL

11, Fairfax Road, Prestwich, Manchester, M25 1AS
Tel: 0161 773 2324

Website: ourladyofgrace.co.uk
Email: philip.caldwell@dioceseofsalford.org.uk



TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

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| Sunday 13th October | Holy Masses 9am & 11am |
| Monday 14th October | Holy Mass 12 noon |
| Tuesday 15th October St Teresa of Avila | Holy Mass 12 noon |
| Wednesday 16th October St Margaret Mary | Holy Mass 12 noon |
| Thursday 17th October St Ignatius of Antioch | Holy Mass 12 noon |
| Friday 18th October St Luke | Requiem Chris Burke 12 noon |
| Saturday 19th October St Paul of the Cross | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Confessions 11.40am-12.50pm, 4-4.40pm Holy Mass 11am Vigil 5pm |

Folk Night with Rioghnach Connolly

Back by popular request after the success of St Patrick's Night—Rioghnach Connolly—singer with Honey Feet and The Breath, will be here to perform a medley of folk music. **Friday November 1st at 7.30pm.** Tickets available from sellers at the back—**£10 with Supper Ticket only.**

SYNOD

Remember the 'Big Listen' exercise which began our Diocesan Synod? The Report from all contributions is now complete. Four major themes resulted:

- Nurturing Faith in Tomorrow's World
- Building Connections
- Enabling Access
- Fostering Christ-like Care

These themes now need to be reflected on. A leaflet has been produced to help and is available at the back of church. Watch out for more details of how to get involved in our parish's reflection and for more details visit the diocesan site at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/>

RCIA

I have delayed the beginning of the weekly course for those interested in becoming a Catholic until **Wednesday 23rd October at 7.30pm.** If you intend coming along please let me know.

Book Club

The book club next meets on **Monday 14th October, at 2pm** in the Cottage.

Prayer Group

Prayer Group will meet in the Cottage at **7pm on Monday 14th Oct.**

Cafod Family Fast Day—Oct 4th

Thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the Cafod Family Fast. You can still place your envelope in the collection for this week and next. The total collected to date is **£969.70.** This will be combined with donations to the Starving World Box of **£324.00.** Total to date **£1293.70**

Social Committee

The running total raised towards redecoration from the 200 Club and the Quiz and Bingo Night is £4,728.90. Thank you for all your support

Learning the Language

This week, we celebrated the Feast of our only modern English Saint, Cardinal Newman: Famous for his Grammar of Assent. You know, when a toddler of around two, promptly stops garbling lots of words and all at once, suddenly, seems to speak in full, clear sentences? Well, Newman rightly said, that there's a similar moment in the realm of faith. All that we see and say, all that we experience and learn in life about God, suddenly seems to come together into a clear language that our heart understands.

The readings speak about this today - about the process by which we come to a moment of understanding and choice. The first reading speaks of how Wisdom guides us on our way - of the process by which prayer and knowledge are gradually given to a person. And Hebrews tells of how the Word of God cuts into us and gradually gathers our reflections together in the heart:- weighing our secret emotions and thoughts - and slowly forming them into sense: A language that suddenly uncovers the truth of everything. St John Henry Newman describes this as a grammar - the grammar needed to learn the language of love.

He knew, all too well, that learning the language ultimately brings you to a moment of assent - of choosing to speak or not the language we have learned. Like a toddler of two, we don't know exactly how this has come about. But we do know in our heart we've come to a crucial moment at which we have to choose a 'yes' or 'no' to the language we have learned: the language of love. The moment when we realise that we are speaking to a Person who is looking at us in love. The moment of choice to say yes or no. Newman is very clear—this is not a moment of the mind but the heart.

The rich young man in the gospel has come to that point - Jesus looks steadily at him in love. He's been learning the language from his youth this lad - he has a gift for it I'd say. Pretty fluent, he can pick up the nuances and knows the rules of the Law. But there's a question and a moment of choice, here, and it's never been about money!

It's about whether what he's learnt is just words or if it's become a language of love whereby one person can choose to say yes to another - to Jesus—it's the moment of truth: what Saint John Henry calls the Grammar of Assent. And he goes away sad this person ...

But we don't have to. We've all learned that language from our youth; since we were toddlers most of us: we know the rules and have learnt the words and played the game. But have we come to the moment of assent, when conscious of the loving gaze of Jesus on our heart it's time to say our 'yes'. We wouldn't want to let this moment pass, would we, and go away sad? In our very own English language, that 'yes' is what Newman said.